



United States
Office of Personnel Management

FWS Job Grading Standard for Motion Picture Projectionist

3910

TS-32, 8/74

**Workforce Compensation and Performance Service
Classification Programs Division
June 1998, HRCD-5**

COVERAGE OF STANDARD

This standard is used to grade nonsupervisory work involved in the operation and operational maintenance of motion picture equipment such as 8 mm, 16 mm, fixed and portable 35 mm or film strip silent and sound projectors, accessory and associated equipment.

WORK NOT COVERED BY THIS STANDARD

This standard does not cover work that primarily involves:

- Operating, testing, and adjusting sound recording, rerecording, and sound mixing equipment. (See [Sound Recording Equipment Operating Series, 3911](#).)
- Joining, assembling, synchronizing, and preparing preprint motion picture film material for printing. (See [Film Assembling and Repairing Series, 9003](#).)

TITLES

Jobs covered by this standard are to be titled *Motion Picture Projectionist*.

GRADE LEVELS

This standard does not describe all possible levels at which jobs may be established. If jobs differ substantially from the skill, knowledge, and other work requirements described in this standard, they may be graded above or below these levels based on the application of sound job grading methods.

3910-5 MOTION PICTURE PROJECTIONIST, GRADE 5 3910-5

General: The work at this grade involves setting up, operating, and maintaining small motion picture projecting equipment such as 8 mm and 16 mm silent and sound motion picture projectors and sound-reproducing equipment to produce coordinated effects on screen.

Skill and Knowledge: Grade 5 motion picture projectionists must be able to set up and adjust 8 mm and 16 mm silent and sound motion picture projectors and screen to achieve proper size, illumination, and focus of the image; to operate motion picture and still projectors to show slides and filmstrips, and disc playback machines or portable tape reproducers for sound. They should be able to replace defective lamps, clean, oil, and make adjustments to equipment; cut and splice film prior to and during operations when breakage occurs; locate and replace defective tubes and fuses; and be skillful in anticipating transfer of operation from one machine to another without interrupting flow of action on screen. It is necessary that they be proficient in utilizing hand tools such as allen wrenches, screwdrivers, and pliers.

Responsibility: Grade 5 motion picture projectionists receive oral or written instructions from a supervisor or a higher grade motion picture projectionist that include designation of film to be shown, time, and place of showing, and the order and timing of the successive slides or frames. Usually there is no technical supervision over the work during slide, film, or filmstrip showings; however, the work is subject to occasional review by the supervisor in terms of adequacy of presentation and skill in operation of equipment.

Physical Effort: Grade 5 motion picture projectionists usually stand or walk while completing assignments. They often handle objects such as reels of film in shipping cases and components of motion picture equipment which weigh up to 23 kilograms (50 pounds) and are bulky and difficult to handle. Considerable muscular effort is required in lifting and carrying equipment, and in reaching and bending to move and place it.

Working Conditions: The work is normally performed inside a semidark clean, well-heated area. A minor amount of dust accumulates on equipment that is oiled or greased. There are some hazards involved in connection with the highly flammable nature of some types of film and danger of electrical shock and burns while changing projection lamps, tubes, and plugs. Also there is some possibility of cuts and bruises to fingers from moving sprockets and belts.

3910-7 MOTION PICTURE PROJECTIONIST, GRADE 7 3910-7

General: In comparison with the work described at the grade 5 level, grade 7 motion picture projectionists operate and maintain larger and more complex projectors and accessory equipment such as portable and fixed 35 mm sound projectors and public address or intercommunication systems.

Skill and Knowledge: In addition to the skill requirements described at the grade 5 level, grade 7 motion picture projectionists must be able to operate portable and permanently installed 35 mm motion picture projectors, assuring a standard quality of sound and picture projection. They have sufficient knowledge of the internal parts of projectors and their interplay to be able to troubleshoot malfunctions and quickly make corrections. They are skilled in performing organizational maintenance to keep 35 mm sound projectors in good working condition. Such maintenance is more complex and difficult than maintenance on projectors of smaller sizes. This includes replacing worn carbons, realigning reflectors with lens and screen, cutting and splicing film to prevent or correct breakage, and aligning and focusing sound optical systems. They are able to set up and inspect curtain and screen controls, and to recognize any deviation from normal quality of picture and sound projection.

Responsibility: Grade 7 motion picture projectionists work from oral or written instructions provided by the supervisor or higher grade motion picture projectionist. They perform their duties independently with occasional review by supervisor. In the event problems arise, grade 7 projectionists take corrective action but notify the supervisor when major repairs are required.

Physical Effort: The physical effort is similar to that described at the [grade 5 level](#).

Working Conditions: The working conditions are similar to those described at the [grade 5 level](#). However, when projection machines are installed to simultaneously service two projection rooms from one projection booth, the working conditions are more crowded and there is greater confusion, poor ventilation, and overheating of the projection booth.